



**Washington State Examining Board Of Psychology
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2003
Department of Health
Centerpoint Corporate Park
20435 72nd Ave
Creekside Building Three – Second Floor
Kent WA 98032**

Board Members Present: Dean Funabiki, Ph.D., Chair; Gloria Rose Koepping, Ph.D.; John Ramirez, Ph.D.; Elizabeth Robinson, Ph.D.; Jorge Torres-Saenz, Psy.D.; Douglas Uhl, Psy.D.

Board Members Absent: Ray Harry, Public Member, Vice-Chair; Patricia Hanson, Psy.D.; Lisa Richesson, Public Member

Staff Present: Janice Boden, Program Manager; Kathy Devine, Administrative Assistant; Chris Swanson, Assistant Attorney General; Margaret Gilbert, Staff Attorney; Peter Harris, Staff Attorney

OPEN SESSION

1. *Call to Order* – The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM.
 - ❖ Today's meeting agenda was approved after moving agenda item 14 to agenda 1b.
 - ❖ The Board reviewed and accepted the minutes from the June 12-13, 2003, board meeting.
 - ❖ Assistant Attorney General Chris Swanson, who was substituting for AAG Marc Defreyn, was introduced.
 - ❖ Margaret Gilbert introduced one of the new DOH staff attorneys, Peter Harris.

1b. Equivalent Qualifications for Endorsement – The Board considered whether Arizona's licensing standards for psychologists are equivalent to Washington's standards for the purpose of issuing temporary permits under RCW 18.83.082.

Decision: Move to agenda item 5b.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board met in closed session to determine the disposition of complaints (presented without identifying information), to review applications for examination, to review appeals to the oral examination, and to discuss the oral examination process.

2. *Informal Examination Appeals* – The Board reviewed the appeals of three candidates who had failed the July 18-19 oral examination.

Decision: All three appeals were denied.

3. *Disciplinary Cases* – Cases Considered:

- ❖ Case #2003-04-0002PY – Close, no violation
- ❖ Case #2003-04-0009PY – Close, no violation
- ❖ Case #2003-06-0001PY – Notice of Correction
- ❖ Case #2003-03-0005PY – Close, no violation

4. *Oral Examination* – The Board discussed the results of the July oral examination and which of the following three format options to use for future examinations:

- ❖ Use the old oral exam format
- ❖ Keep the current oral exam format
- ❖ Develop a new simplified oral exam format

(The Board postponed making a decision to after agenda item 14.)

OPEN SESSION

5. *Statute and Rule Change Request from Washington State Psychological Association* – The Board discussed WSPA's proposed changes to the psychology law RCW 18.83.070 and WAC 246-924-040. The proposal would allow psychology students to meet the experience requirement for licensure within their doctoral program.

Decision: The Board will add this item to a future agenda. Dr. Robinson and Ms. Boden will review the proposal and report back to the Board.

Public Comment: Dr. Lucy Homans discussed WSPA's concerns regarding changes to the Uniform Disciplinary Act, the proposed change for the time it takes to access a public record. The current timeframe is 14 days. The right of entry issue is problematic and simply walking in the door and requesting a record is not okay.

5b. *Equivalent Qualifications for Endorsement*

Decision: The Board accepted Arizona's standards for licensure as being equivalent to Washington's standards. Psychologists from Arizona, that are otherwise eligible, may be issued a temporary permit under RCW 18.83.082.

6. *Goal Committee Reports:*

- ❖ Oral Examination Committee – No report

- ❖ Newsletter Committee – There has been trouble getting newsletter articles approved through different Department reviews, but the newsletter should go to the printers by next week. Lisa has suggested that those board members who have not previously submitted articles, submit articles for the next newsletter.
- ❖ Interjurisdictional Practice Committee – No report
- ❖ Rules Committee
 - a. Custody Evaluation Proposal - The Program will do whatever it takes to move the proposal forward and will report to the Board the progress at each meeting until it passes.
 - b. Records Retention Proposal – Awaiting comment and economic feedback.
- ❖ On-Line Therapy – The goal is to identify issues regarding on-line therapy.
- ❖ New Licensee Orientation Committee – Ms. Boden, Dr. Robinson and Dr. Koepping will attend the November 7th WSPA meeting to update the association on the oral examination changes. The Board and WSPA will work together to present the first orientation for newly licensed psychologists which will take place the end of January 2004. There will be two orientations each year. The orientation will include training on regulations, the complaint process and how to avoid complaints. Newly licensed psychologists will receive three hours of continuing education for attending the orientation.
- ❖ Ethics Committee – The committee will review and revise the current ethics rules listed in RCW 18.83.121 and propose to the Board whether any changes need to be made and whether to adopt the American Psychological Association code of ethics.

7. *Program Report* – Bob Nicoloff reviewed with the Board his discussions with DOH management concerning Board recommended changes to the Credential Lookup System. He also discussed DOH legislation for the next legislative session. Janice Boden reviewed the Open-Case-Step Report, the Interim Operating Budget, and other items of interest.

Decision: Bob will continue to remind the Department of the recommended changes to the Credential Lookup System made by Dr. Bradley. These changes include changing the format of the system to allow for easier reader usage (e.g., changing the subject line of “fine or cost recovery” to two different lines and including an explanation of the differences between informal disciplinary action and formal disciplinary action).

8. *Surrender of License* – **Deferred to the October Board Meeting.**

(Agenda item 9, public comment, was moved up to agenda item 5 to allow Dr. Lucy Homans to comment.)

10. *Publishing Sanctions in the Psychology Newsletter*

Decision: Only final orders and agreed orders will be published in the newsletter.

11. *Draft Policy on Delegation of Board's Authority to Initiate Investigations*

Decision: The Board accepted the policy which allows the DOH Case Management Team to forward certain reports directly to investigation. The Case Management Team will follow case disposition guidelines established by this policy.

12. *Correspondence*

- ❖ The Board reviewed a request from a post-doctoral student for clarification of whether working as a clinical supervisor at a crisis clinic would count as psychological work for accumulating post-doctoral hours.

Decision: The Board agreed that her work as a clinical supervisor would count towards her post-doctoral hours.

- ❖ The Board reviewed the inquiry from the American Red Cross asking if Washington psychologists used during disasters are or would be exempt from the record-keeping requirement. **Deferred to the October Board Meeting**

13. *Continuing Education Extension and Exemption Requests*

Decision: The Board granted the requests.

14. *Request for a Temporary Permit* – The Board considered a request for a 90-day temporary permit from a candidate that holds an Arizona psychology license that has failed the Washington oral examination four times. It was the Board's interpretation of RCW 18.83.082 that this type of temporary permit was only intended for individuals wanting to practice as a psychologist in this state for a specific case or for a limited time. These applicants should not be seeking a license to practice in Washington.

Decision: The Board denied the request.

CLOSED SESSION

Disciplinary case considered:

- ❖ Case #2003-04-0010PY – Close, no violation

The Board continued work on the oral exam process.

Decision: The Board decided to administer a simplified oral examination format that will be more like an interview to allow the candidates to better demonstrate their knowledge, skills and abilities.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janice K. Boden, Program Manager

Kathy Devine, Administrative Assistant

Approved by (Board members present):
